



HOTSHOTS... for the

Gilbert Fire Department Volunteers

Volume 3, Issue 5

May 2010

Kim's Corner

By Kim Yonda
GFD Volunteer Coordinator

When I think about the month of April, I think about our Volunteers. What an amazing month we had!

It was wonderful to see so many GFD Volunteers at the Arizona Central Region Citizen Corps Symposium. We received a lot of positive feedback. The instructors and classes were very interesting, and we all had the opportunity to enhance our knowledge and activate our brain synapses. What delighted me even more was the networking that took place between the various departments and Volunteers. What a fabulous way to get to meet others, exchange ideas, and make new friends. I am looking forward to a 2011 Symposium, (keep your fingers crossed.)



Please remember starting on May 3, the Fire Department will implement a pilot four-day schedule. The administration offices will operate Monday – Thursday 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The resource management facility will also have new operational hours of Monday to Thursday 5:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The crews will continue to function on their same schedules.

What a great celebration our April Awards Ceremony was! The food was delicious at the Dragon Wok Chinese restaurant, and I saw all of your smiling faces enjoying the scrumptious dishes Lola and Sam prepared for us. Please be sure to look further in this issue of Hotshots for a list of the award recipients. Your laughter and smiles are contagious, thank you so very much for sharing your time, positive energy, and talents with Gilbert Fire!

Dare to dream ~

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

BY PASTOR RICK OLLER
B SHIFT

The desire to be significant is a quest that drives many people, and rightfully so. However, significance is often defined by position, title, or roles, as in “Top of the class.” “Lead character in a play.” “Star player.” “Doctor.” “Attorney.” “Captain.” “Chief.” “Pastor”. “Teacher.” “Mayor.” “Governor.” “President.” “CEO.” The list is endless.

Position, title, or roles are not the correct measuring devices to determine a person’s significance. A young boy trying out for the school play told his mother that he had set his heart on being in the play, but his Mom feared her son would not be selected. On the day the parts were awarded, the son came rushing home with his eyes shining with pride and excitement, exclaiming, “Guess what, Mom, I’ve been chosen to clap and cheer!”

Who are the people who made a difference in your life? What is it that made them significant to you? Was it their position, title or role? Probably not. More likely the difference they made in your life was because of their capacity to reach beyond themselves and care about you. Significance is closely related to caring.

Those who drink coffee can readily detect good coffee no matter what kind of cup it is served in. Someone has explained that Life is the coffee, and position, title or roles are the cups. The cups are the tools to hold and contain Life. The type of cup a person has/is does not define or change the quality of Life. Sometimes, concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee.... Enjoy the coffee! Your care for others is significant.

Reviewing CERT

By Johnna Switzer
GFD Volunteer

Those who attended the ACRCC Symposium April 16, and April 17, had some excellent learning opportunities. For those of you who were unable to attend, be sure to watch for an invitation to next year's event. It should not be missed. In future months I plan to present questions from some of the presentations.

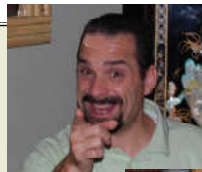
This month and next month, I will present some general CERT questions. Be sure to pull out your CERT manuals and do a quick review if you find you do not remember the information.

1. The first CERT member to arrive at a predetermined staging area assumes the role of the:
 - a. Designated Chief.
 - b. Size-up Coordinator.
 - c. Incident Commander.
 - d. Lead Responder.
2. The CERT Team Leader manages CERT operations until:
 - a. The Operations Section Chief reports for duty.
 - b. The first professional responder arrives.
 - c. The Emergency Operations Plan is activated.
 - d. The Incident Command Post is established.
3. All CERT decisions will be made with which key question in mind:
 - a. How quickly can the CERT team assist the victims?
 - b. When will professional responders arrive at the scene?
 - c. Who is the Incident Commander in this situation?
 - d. Is it safe for CERT members to attempt this task?



Did You Know?

Kudos to all of our Volunteers! In 2009, Gilbert Fire Volunteers gave 19,702.75 hours of their skills and talents to the Department. This is valued at \$398,980.69, and is a 58.51 percent increase from 2008.



Applause! Applause! Applause!

... the 2010 winners are ...



Excellence in Caring: **Ryan Keating, Tom LaPado**

Flexibility Award: **Seth Powell**

Rises Above the Rest: **Dan Zehring**

Above and Beyond: **Bill Chaloux**

Editors of the Year: **Suzanne & Bob Hoebermann**

Behind the Scenes: **Angie Jones, Steve Smith,
Matt Strauss, Johnna Switzer**

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year: **Josh Mock**

Outstanding New Volunteer of the Year: **Dianna Erickson**

Ears to You: **Jim Breen, Kerri Scott**

Positive Energy Award: **Katharine Keller**

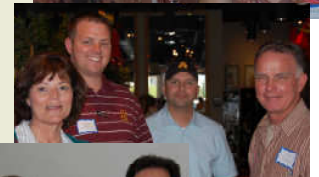
Golden Plunger Award: **Larry MacDonald**

Lifesaver: **Beverly Schweitzer**

Bright Light Award: **Andrew Armstrong**

Furthest Distance Traveled: **Craig Randolph**

Mission Readiness Award: **Jon Switzer**



By Ryan Keating
GFD Volunteer



One of the things that impress me is how accepting the citizens of Gilbert are of the Community Assistance program. They trust us enough to invite us into their homes for smoke detector checks, or welcome us to just sit with them and discuss what is happening during the difficult times of their lives. Their level of trust in us is also exhibited by their willingness to let us drive their vehicles in various situations.

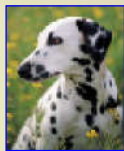
I don't know about you, but I am pretty protective of my car, (just ask my wife.) Often when we help citizens they say, "I never knew the Gilbert Fire Department had this program!" Often this statement comes when we are in homes installing smoke detectors. They are all so grateful to have someone come out and make their lives easier. I am sure that all of the Volunteers get a warm feeling when they know that they have really helped someone.

I think that some of the biggest variables we run into on our job are the many different types of personalities we see, and the wide range of ages we help. We run into little kids who think that we are firefighters. Once there was a little girl who wanted her picture taken with me while I was installing a car seat because she thought I was a firefighter. I told her parents that I was not, and that I was a Volunteer and they said, "That's ok she doesn't know that," and it made her day. We also interact with those on the other end of the age spectrum. Like the 84 year old woman with dementia we transported with one of the firefighters. Even though she did not know what was exactly going on, she was as spry as ever, even telling the firefighter, "Damn right," when he said that she was the boss.

Another thing that this position affords us is being able to use the skills that we possess to help others. Whether that is EMT skills, cow-herding skills, disability awareness, lock installing, child care, or just a genuine compassion for those in need, Volunteering is great. I think all of this is what makes Volunteering fun. Since you never know what is going to happen on your next shift, or who you are going to meet, it makes you eager to put on your Community Assistance shirt and see where it leads you.

You've Been Spotted

Thank you for doing something great!



Larry MacDonald
Jeff East

You are appreciated!

Reviewing Community Assistance

By Dianna Erickson and Ryan Keating, GFD Volunteers

1. What do you do after you have read and printed an email?
 - a. Delete it
 - b. Leave it for the next shift to read
 - c. Ignore it
 - d. Throw it on the desk
2. What should the tire pressure be in the Community Assistance Suburban?
 - a. 35
 - b. 45
 - c. What tires
 - d. 40
3. In which washing machine do you put the towels that are used to wipe the suburban down?
 - a. East side by ladder
 - b. In the bay
 - c. West side by ladder
4. What is the correct procedure for ordering t-shirts?
 - a. Fill out the order form
 - b. Tell Kim
 - c. Put a post-it on Kim's computer

Remember To Vote

Gilbert will have an early voting site for the May 18 Election. Early ballots may be cast in person between April 22 and May 14 in Room 303, Gilbert Municipal Center, 50 East Civic Center Drive, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on May 8 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Gilbert Municipal Center.

Any voter registered in Maricopa County will be eligible to vote at this early voting location. Ballots are printed on-demand based upon your address and will contain only the issues for which you are eligible to vote.

The first two weeks of early voting in person are generally the lightest, with the heavier traffic --and possibly longer wait times-- occurring during the last two weeks. We encourage those wishing to vote in person to come in early.

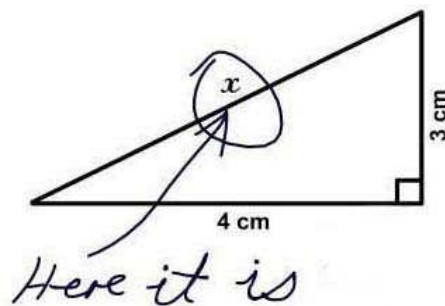
Answers: 1. a, 2. d, 3. c, 4. a

A Little Laugh

Here are some real exam answers.

Why didn't we know them?

1. Q. What is a fibula?
A. A little lie.
2. Q. What is the highest frequency a human can register?
A. Mariah Carey.
3. Q. What is a vibration?
A. There are good vibrations and bad vibrations. Good vibrations were discovered in the 1960s.
4. Q. Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.
A. Learning to speak Latin.
5. Q. What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Kahn have in common?
A. Unusual names.
6. Q. Name six animals which live specifically in the Artic.
A. Two polar bears and ~~three~~ four seals.
7. Q. Find X.
A.



HOTSTUFF

MAY

3	Training Team	3:00 -4:30 PM	Room 2	Citizen Corps
4	4 Day GFD Admin Schedule Starts	All Day	Admin	CERT/FC
10	Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser Starts	All Day	Fire Admin	CERT/FC
10	Operations Team	6:30 -7:30 PM	Room 2	Citizen Corps
11	CPR/AED	5:30 -8:30 PM	Room 2	CERT/FC
15	Collision Avoidance	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Tempe Training	CA
17	Bloodborne Pathogens	6:00 -10:00 PM	Room 1	▲
18	First Aid	5:30 -8:30 PM	Room 2	CERT/FC
20	IMS/Safety	6:00 -10:00 PM	Room 1	CA

Fire Administration will be closed May 31 for Memorial Day

Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser starts May 10.



JUNE

7	Community Assistance Meeting	4:00 -6:00 PM	Room 6	CA
12	Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser Pick-up	9:00 AM	Amplitheater	CERT/FC
12	Logistics Team	8:30 -10:00 AM	Room 2	Citizen Corps
12	Specialties Team	10:00 -11:30 AM	Room 2	Citizen Corps

▲ Supplemental Training classes are open to CERT, FC, and VIPS Volunteers.
Register with Kim Yonda @ 480-503-6325 or kim.yonda-lead@gilbertaz.gov

Welcome

New GFD Volunteers

Kevin Allen
Justin Dupuy
Janice Edgington

Kevin Johnsen
David Rodriguez, Jr.
Emily Webb